

Message Text

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53

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 NEA-10 RSC-01

SS-20 SPC-03 L-03 H-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 EB-11 AID-20 AGR-20 COME-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, FAO, EAGR, DA

SUBJ: UN WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE , DRAFT UNGA RESOLUTION

REF: STATE 235815

SUMMARY: DANISH GOVT INFORMED US DECEMBER 5 THAT IT IS INSTRUCTING

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ITS UN DELEGATION TO CO-SPONSOR US DRAFT UNGA RESOLUTION PRO-

VIDEO THAT ONE OR MORE LDCS INCLUDED AMONG CO-SPONSORS. DANISH UN MISSION HAS ALREADY BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE STRONG EFFORT FOR INCLUSION OF DENMARK ON PREPCOM. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBOFFS PRESENTED US DRAFT RESOLUTION TO POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC OFFICIALS IN FONOFF AND TO AGMIN DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY (KRISTENSEN) EARLY THIS WEEK. KRISTENSEN SAW NO PROBLEMS WITH DRAFT RESOLUTION, ALTHOUGH FONOFF THOUGHT THEY MIGHT HAVE SOME EDITORIAL CHANGES TO SUGGEST. FONOFF ALSO FELT THAT OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 6 WOULD HAVE TO BE AMENDED TO ESTABLISH MORE PRECISELY THE MANNER IN WHICH PREPCOM WOULD BE SELECTED.

2. FONOFF OFFICIALS SAID THAT NORDICS HAD INITIALLY AGREED AMONG THEMSELVES THAT PREPCOM SHOULD HAVE 57 MEMBERS BUT THAT FONOFF NOW FEELS CONSIDERABLE UNPRODUCTIVE SQUABBLING MIGHT BE AVOIDED IF MEMBERSHIP LEFT OPEN-ENDED. THEY THOUGHT THAT LEAVING PREPCOM OPEN FOR ALL TO JOIN WOULD RESULT IN MEMBERSHIP OF 60 AT MOST. WHILE ADMITTING THAT COMMITTEE THIS SIZE WOULD BE SOMEWHAT UNWIELDY, THEY SAW ADVANTAGE IN LARGER SIZE AS MORE REPRESENTATIVE OF UN MEMBER COUNTRY VIEWS; THEREFORE PREPCOM WITH THIS COMPOSITION WOULD HAVE GREATER AUTHORITY IN ITS DECISION-MAKING. KRISTENSEN, ON OTHER HAND, BELIEVES SMALLER COMMITTEE WOULD BE MORE MANAGEABLE AND EFFECTIVE. NEVERTHELESS KRISTENSEN FEELS STRONGLY THAT DENMARK SHOULD BE MEMBER BECAUSE OF IMPORTANCE OF DANISH AGRICULTURE AND DENMARK'S PAST HISTORY IN PROVIDING FOOD AID. HE CAUTIONED THAT DENMARK SHOULD NOT IN THIS CONTEXT BE VIEWED AS BEING REPRESENTED BY THE EC SINCE ITS FOOD AID POLICIES ARE COORDINATED WITH OTHER NORDIC COUNTRIES AND ARE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT THAN OTHER EC COUNTRIES.

3. WE TOLD DANES THAT USG PREFERS PREPCOM OF LIMITED SIZE BUT WOULD, OF COURSE, CONSIDER OTHER VIEWS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT, AS RESULT OF THIS CONVERSATION, FONOFF INSTRUCTED THEIR UN MISSION ON DEC 4 TO EXPLORE FURTHER THE QUESTION OF PREPCOM SIZE WITH USUN WITH VIEW TO ASSURING DANISH MEMBERSHIP REGARDLESS OF SIZE. THE DANES SEE CO-SPONSORSHIP AS A MEANS OF ASSURING MEMBERSHIP.

4. FONOFF ASSUMES THAT EVEN LIMITED PREPCOM WOULD HAVE NORDIC MEMBER. DENMARK IS USUAL CHOICE OF NORDICS AS REPRESENTATIVE SUCH COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURAL MATTERS AND DANES ARE NOW TALKING WITH OTHER NORDICS TO OBTAIN THEIR SUPPORT FOR DANISH MEMBERSHIP IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PREPCOM (WHICH KRISTENSEN SAYS WAS ALREADY INFORMALLY AGREED TO IN ROME).

5. DANES BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL TO OBTAIN CO-SPONSORSHIP OF RESOLUTION FROM A REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER OF LDCS. THEY CONSIDER THIS IMPORTANT IN VIEW OF WHAT HAPPENED AT ROME FAO MEETING AND BELIEVE FAILURE TO DO SO WOULD SERIOUSLY ENDANGER PASSAGE OF RESOLUTION IN ITS PRESENT FORM. THEY THEREFORE ARE MAKING THEIR CO-SPONSORSHIP CONDITIONAL ON

US OBTAINING CO-SPONSORSHIP BY "ONE OR MORE" LDCS.
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